

Message Text

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ACTION MCT-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 USSS-00 CTME-00 CAB-02
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-10
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O R 181453Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6860
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 7213

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: EAIR CA FR IT JA UK PL GW
SUBJ: BONN SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS MEETING ON HIJACKING

REF (A) STATE 186923, (B) STATE 203487, (C) STATE 203566
(D) BONN 14457, (E) WARSAW 7212 (NOTAL)

1. FRG AMBASSADOR HELD MEETING OF THE REPRESENTATIVES
OF BONN SUMMIT PARTICIPANTS TO DISCUSS DIPLOMATIC APPROACH
TO GOP REGARDING HIJACKING DECLARATION. FRG , UK, ITALY,
JAPAN AND US REPRESENTED BY AMBASSADORS. CANADA AND
FRANCE REPRESENTED BY CHARGES. UK , ITALY AND CANADA HAD
NO INSTRUCTIONS.

2. DIFFERENCES OVER HOW APPROACH SHOULD BE MADE TO GOP
IMMEDIATELY AROSE FROM, TO THE SURPRISE OF NO ONE, FRENCH
CHARGE WHO SAID THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE THAT IT HAD
BEEN "AGREED" THAT GERMAN AMBASSADOR WOULD MAKE DEMARCHE
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FOR ALL SEVEN. GERMAN, JAPANESE AND US AMBASSADORS
STATED THAT THEIR UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT THE METHOD
WOULD BE WORKED OUT IN CONSULTATIONS AMONG RESIDENT
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVEN COUNTRIES TO REFLECT
LOCAL CONDITIONS.

3. IN DISCUSSION OF THE RELATIVE ADVANTAGES OF EACH

METHOD, THE ITALIAN AMB EXPRESSED INITIAL PREFERENCE FOR JOINT DEMARCHE WHICH WOULD UNDERSCORE THE SOLEMNITY AND IMPORTANCE OF THE DECLARATION. UK AMB FAVORED APPROACH BY SINGLE, PREFERABLY GERMAN, REPRESENTATIVE OF SEVEN BUT WITH ALL SEVEN COUNTRIES SENDING SUPPORTING NOTES. HE NOTED THAT JOINT APPROACH MIGHT BE SOMEWHAT OFFENSIVE TO POLISH GOVERNMENT. THE JAPANESE AMB, AFTER DIFFERENCES AMONG INSTRUCTIONS EMERGED, DID NOT STATE AN OPINION. THE GERMAN AMB, WITHOUT COMMENTING HIMSELF, OBVIOUSLY HOPES TO HAVE AS MUCH SUPPORT AS POSSIBLE. CANDIAN CHARGE PRELIMINARILY OPTED FOR BRITISH PROPOSAL.

4. I SAID THAT I COULD UNDERSTAND POLISH SENSITIVITY TO JOINT DEMARCHE FROM SEVEN WESTERN EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN AMBS BUT THAT APPROACH BY ONLY ONE OF US DID NOT SEEM ADEQUATELY TO REFLECT THE IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO THIS ISSUE. I POINTED OUT DECLARATION WAS A STRONG STATEMENT OF POLITICAL WILL BY LEADERS SEVEN IMPORTANT POWERFUL COUNTRIES WHOSE AIRLINES CARRY 69 PERCENT OF THE FREE WORLD'S COMMERCIAL AIR TRAFFIC. THEREFORE IT SEEMED TO ME THAT SEVEN AMBS SHOULD APPROACH GOP INDIVIDUALLY BUT WITH A COMMON TEXT OF A NOTE OR OTHER DOCUMENT. IT WAS AGREED THAT WE WOULD ALL SEEK INSTRUCTIONS AGAIN.

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5. REGARDING POSSIBLE DRAFT NOTE OR AIDE MEMOIRE FRG AMB PROVIDED A DRAFT TEXT IN ENGLISH WHICH WAS NOT VERY COMPREHENSIBLE AND WHICH WE AND UK WILL WORK OVER BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING AUGUST 22.

6. COMMENT: DIFFERENT FRENCH APPROACH WAS NOT SURPRISING. IN ADDITION TO PROPENSITY TO KEEP ALL OPTIONS OPEN, FRENCH ATTITUDE IS UNDOUBTEDLY TIED TO "SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP" IT PROFESSES TO HAVE WITH POLAND. IT WILL PROBABLY ALWAYS RESIST JOINT OR COORDINATED APPROACHES TO GOP JUST AS IT REFUSES TO PARTICIPATE IN NATO AMBASSADORIAL MEETINGS HERE.

7. ACTUALLY IF ONE AMBASSADOR IS TO MAKE APPROACH HERE FRG MAY NOT BE BEST CHOICE (A) BECAUSE OF THE PECULIARLY SENSITIVE NATURE OF FRG-GOP RELATIONS: AND (B) BECAUSE OF THE POSSIBILITY AS IN THE CASE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIAN AIRLINES-- ANY PLANE HIJACKED HERE MIGHT GO TO FRG FROM WHICH GOP WOULD DEMAND EXTRADITION DESPITE FRG RECORD OF PROSECUTING HIJACKERS. IN PAST PTLES HAVE MADE CLEAR THEIR RESERVATIONS ABOUT TENDENCY TO REGARD EASTERN EUROPEAN HIJACKERS

AS POLITICAL REFUGEES.

8. I INTEND TO CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR SEPARATE
APPROACHES BY ALL BUT ASSUME THAT FRENCH OBSTINACY
WILL PROBABLY FORCE US TO AGREE THAT ONE WILL
REPRESENT ALL OF US. FRG AMBASSADOR HAS SUGGESTED
THAT IT MIGHT BE APPROPRIATE FOR ITALIAN,
AS SENIOR AMONG US, TO MAKE APPROACH TO GÖT. THAT
IDEA HAS MERIT AND I WILL PURSUE POSSIBILITY.
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